Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7165

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USDOCOSOUTH INTAF

USCINCEUR POLAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 5058

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, CU, YO

SUBJ: YUGOSLAV-CUBAN DISPUTE OVER ROLE OF NON ALIGNED COUNTINUES

REF: HAVANA 1803

- 1. ALTHOUGH YUGOSLAVS TOOK NO OFFICIAL NOTICE OF STRONG STATEMENT OF CUBAN POSITION NOTED IN REFTEL (AND OTHERWISE WELL INFORMED NAM DIPLOMATS HERE MAINTAIN IGNORANCE OF ITS OCCURRENCE), YUGOSLAVS HAVE RESPONDED SHARPLY TO A JULY 6 "PRENSA LATINA" ARTICLE WHICH ACCUSES "CERTAIN THEORETICIANS" OF PLAYING INTO THE HANDS OF "AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS" BY ATTEMPTING TO SWAY THE NAM AGAINST THE SOCIALIST CAMP.
- 2. FEDERAL SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS VRHOVEC MET WITH CUBAN UNDERSECRETARY RICARDO ALARCON JULY 7 TO DISCUSS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UPCOMING BELGRADE FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE. DETAILS
OF THE TALK WERE NOT DIVULGED BUT THAT NO MEETING OF THE
MINDS OCCURRED EMERGES UNMISTAKABLY FROM A PROMINENT ARTICLE
SIGNED BY VLADO TESLIC IN "BORBA" JULY 8. AFTER STATING
ONCE AGAIN THAT NAM MOVEMENT WAS FOUNDED ON PRINCIPLES
OF INDEPENDENCE FROM BLOCS AND OPPOSITION TO ALL FORMS
OF FORCE, INTERFERENCE, AND DOMINATION, TESLIC TAKES

"PRENSA LATINA" TO TASK FOR ITS "UNACCEPTABLE STANDS"
AND "INCORRECT" APPROACH TO NAM. HE CHARGES CUBAN VIEWS REFLECT EITHER MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE SPIRIT, LETTER AND PRACTICE OF NON ALIGNMENT OR ARE GRIST FOR THE MILLS OF THOSE SEEKING TO BREAK UP THE NAM. TESLIC DENIES THAT THOSE WHO STRUGGLE "AGAINST BLOC POLITICS, INTERFERENCE AND HEGEMONISM" CAN BE QUALIFIED BY THE CUBANS AS "SLAVES OF IMPERIALISM".

3. IN AN ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE COMMENTING ON UPCOMING BELGRADE NAM CONFERENCE, "BORBA" EXPRESSES THE CONVICTION THAT ATTEMPTS TO DIVIDE THE MOVEMENT ON IDEOLOGICAL OR ANY OTHER GROUNDS WILL BE REJECTED AND INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHERS WILL BE CONDEMNED REGARDLESS OF THE EXCUSE OR THE DIRECTION FROM WHICH THE INTERFERENCE COMES.

4. THESE ARE THE MOST EXPLICIT POLEMICE BETWEEN THE YUGOSLAVS AND CUBANS NOTED TO DATE. EAGLEBURGER

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